

Applicant: Kari Hasanen et al.
Application No.: 09/980,061
Art Unit: 1731

23. (Amended) An apparatus for closing a shoe against a backing roll to form a nip between the backing roll and the shoe in a paper machine, the apparatus comprising:

a backing roll;

a shoe;

a belt within which the shoe is positioned, the shoe being loaded against the backing roll to define a nip by a plurality of hydraulic cylinders;

a frame extending within the belt, the hydraulic cylinders supporting the shoe on the frame;

at least two position measuring sensors arranged in connection with the shoe between the shoe and the frame, the sensors measuring the position of the shoe and producing position measurements, the position measuring sensors being spaced from one another in a cross machine direction; and

a processing unit which receives the position measurements from the position measuring sensors, the processing unit generating signals which control the hydraulic cylinders to close the shoe towards the backing roll.

Please add the following new claims:

25. The method of claim 17 wherein the backing roll is a thermoroll.

26. The method of claim 12 wherein the reference position is a fixed position on a frame to which the shoe is mounted.

Remarks

Claims 12–26 remain pending in the application. In the Office Action dated October 24, 2002, the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, and under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the disclosures of *Bubik et al.* and *Koenigbauer et al.* and *Hoever et al.* as necessary, or over the